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Foreign Crops and MARKETS



VOLUME 55

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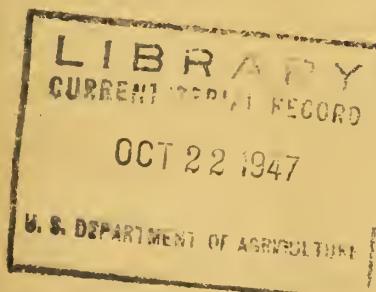
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FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

The British bacon ration is being reduced from two ounces weekly to two ounces every two weeks from October 19. The Ministry of Food recently announced that even the reduced ration can not be maintained very long if the Canadian meat packing strike continues.

It is reported New Zealand will issue no further 1948 import licenses for U.S. dried prunes.

Current Australian measures to aid Great Britain, under consideration for some time, include a proposal to increase exports to the United Kingdom of dried fruits, mostly raisins and currants, during the 1948 shipping season by about 55 percent. The domestic consumption of most dried fruits will be restricted to make this quota.

(cont'd.)

Exports of British Columbia apples to United States markets for the season through October 10 totaled 491 cars. The shipments were sent to 31 States. Illinois led in receipts with 119 cars, followed by Wisconsin 87, Michigan 38, Minnesota 34, Massachusetts 26, Missouri 19, New York 18, Iowa 17, Texas 13, Florida 12, Kansas 11, and North Dakota, Pennsylvania and South Carolina 10 cars each. The 491 cars, by variety, were McIntosh 270, Jonathan 104, Delicious 91, Wealthy 21 and Other five.

Of the total shipments, 244 cars were billed during the period September 28 through October 10, and consisted of 97 cars of Jonathan, 83 cars of Delicious, 59 cars of McIntosh and five cars of other varieties.

The Belgian 1947 crop of dried peas is expected to total only 330,000 100 pound bags. The production of dried beans may be estimated at about 26,000 bags, making a total production of pulses of a little over 356,000 bags. Allowing for such factors as seed and waste, the total available for domestic consumption will be only about 310,000 bags.

South Africa has announced a loan to Britain of £80,000,000 (about \$320,000,000) in gold. Among the commitments which Britain undertakes in return for this loan is an agreement to buy \$48,000,000 worth of South African foodstuffs, principally fruit, wine and fish, during each of the next three years. The Union of South Africa normally supplies the British market with fresh citrus fruits, a variety of soft fruits, such as pears, peaches, plums, grapes, and processed fruit.

N O T E

A recent revision places Brazil's cotton exports in 1946-47 at 1,517,000 bales, instead of 1,619,000 as reported in the annual world cotton trade report published in Foreign Crops and Markets of October 13, 1947.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDSU.S. RICE EXPORTS
ABOUT AVERAGE

Exports of United States rice during August equalled 22 million pounds, compared with 6 million in the corresponding month a year earlier. All except insignificant amounts was exported to Western Hemisphere countries. Of the total, 77 percent (in terms of milled) was delivered to Cuba, and 5,511,000 pounds of rough rice went to Canada.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries,
August 1947, with comparisons a/

Country of destination	August-July			August		
	1937-38	b/	b/	b/	b/	b/
	to 1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1946	1947	
	1940-41					
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Europe.....	43	96	13	c/	c/	c/
Cuba.....	275	333	335	465	2	17
Canada.....	19	36	30	24	c/	4
British West Indies..	c/	3	10	5	c/	c/
Netherlands Indies..	d/	0	60	0	0	0
Philippine Islands..	c/	0	185	254	4	c/
China.....	d/	0	64	67	0	0
Other countries.....	21	23	20	13	c/	1
Total.....	358	491	717	828	6	22

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

a/ Includes milled rice, brown, broken, screenings and rough rice converted to milled at 65 percent. b/ Preliminary. c/ Less than 500,000 pounds. d/ If any, included in other countries.

(Continued on Page 270)

TOBACCOGERMAN TOBACCO SUPPLIES
NEARING EXHAUSTION

According to a report from the American Consulate at Bremen, the American-British zone of Germany will be entirely without tobacco supplies for civilian use by July 1948, unless leaf is obtained from abroad before that date. Present stocks on hand, and the limited amounts from the 1947 crop, will permit maintenance of the current low ration only until the summer of next year.

Monthly ration allowances, according to latest information, for the combined American-British zone, permit each male consumer over 18 years of age, 40 cigarettes or 50 grams of pipe tobacco, or a corresponding weight

in cigars. Women over 25 years receive one-half the ration. At this rate, German civilian consumption of tobacco in the combined zone is less than one-fifth prewar.

Reports indicate that no unmanufactured tobacco has been imported into the American-British zone since the end of the war. Some quantities of manufactured products, however, have arrived in Bremen from overseas, for distribution to Ruhr miners and displaced persons. Information just released, however, indicates that the Joint Export-Import Agency at Minden has allotted \$500,000 for the importation of leaf tobacco, and has approved the importation of \$300,000 worth of Greek tobacco. It is presumably intended for distribution to Ruhr miners. In addition, an agreement recently concluded provides for the delivery of 38 million cigars from the French zone to North-Rhine Westphalia, in the British zone.

A large tobacco-manufacturing plant in Bremen is still engaged in making cigarettes on a limited scale. This plant is reported to be in good condition, and could operate at near prewar capacity, if sufficient leaf were available.

Prewar Germany was one of the world's most important tobacco markets. Large supplies of leaf were obtained from foreign countries, to supplement the inadequate quantities domestically grown. Formerly, the German consumer had a marked preference for cigarettes made from Oriental leaf produced in Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria. Since the close of hostilities, however, the American-type blended cigarette has been in great demand, and has been widely used as currency despite efforts to restrict usage to allied military and civilian personnel. It is obvious that a good market for American leaf tobacco could be developed in Germany provided exports from this country could be expedited commercially.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

BRITISH WEST AFRICAN CACAO CROPS LARGER

According to one source, the combined 1947-48 exportable production of cacao beans for the Gold Coast and Nigeria is estimated at 717 million pounds, which compares with about 652 million pounds last season. The 1946-47 crops in the Gold Coast and Nigeria are placed at 428 and 224 million pounds respectively. No breakdown of the 1947-48 forecast is available.

Cacao beans from the 1946-47 main crops in both the Gold Coast and Nigeria were much below average in size. Beans from the mid-crops were larger, indicating that growing conditions have improved. As of August 1, declared purchases of Gold Coast mid-crop cacao totaled 30.5 million pounds.

According to preliminary figures, exports of cacao beans from the Gold Coast from October 1946 through August 1947 totaled 388.6 million pounds, destined as follows: 168.7 million pounds to the United States, 119.9 to the United Kingdom, 52.2 to other European countries, 22.6 to Australia and New Zealand, and 25.2 to other countries. Exports of cacao from Nigeria

from October through July totaled 235.3 million pounds of which 104.5 million pounds were to the United States, 97.9 to the United Kingdom, 15.9 to Canada, 13.5 to the Netherlands, and 3.5 million pounds to other countries.

MEXICO'S VANILLA CROP TO EQUAL LAST YEAR'S

Mexico's 1947-48 vanilla bean crop now is unofficially forecast at 386,000 pounds, or the same as last year's crop, which was previously reported at 298,000 pounds and later revised upward. The trade originally forecast a much larger 1947-48 production, but unfavorable weather conditions have caused most observers to believe production will not exceed last year's. According to revised figures released by the Mexican Ministry of Agriculture, vanilla bean production for the 1944-45 season totaled 137,000 pounds and 220,000 pounds in 1945-46.

During the first six months of 1947, Mexico exported 188,000 pounds of vanilla beans, all to the United States, compared with total 1946 exports of 185,000 pounds.

DOMINICAN COFFEE CROP REVISED UPWARD

The Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock and Colonization in the Dominion Republic estimates the 1947-48 coffee crop, now being harvested, at 283,000 bags of which 190,000 bags are expected to be available for export. The crop was previously forecast at 250,000 bags on account of drought during the flowering and fruiting seasons. The large yields being obtained in the higher producing areas, which were less affected by the drought, indicate the crop will exceed the early forecast.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

JOINT ORGANIZATION WOOL STOCKS REDUCED 25 PERCENT IN 1946-47

The United Kingdom - Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd., (Joint Organization) reports holdings of Dominion wool on June 30, 1947 at 4,514,758 bales as compared with the revised estimate of 5,786,700 bales as of June 30, 1946 and 10,407,000 bales on July 31, 1945. Converting to pounds, greasy wool basis, and using the same weight of bale as in 1946, stocks are now estimated at 1,500 million pounds, compared with 2,000 million pounds a year earlier and 3,210 million pounds as of July 31, 1945.

Joint Organization stocks have been reduced by 1,700 million pounds or 53 percent since 1945, but commercial stocks are larger. ^{a/} The reduction in Joint Organization Stocks the first year (1945-46) amounted to 4,620,300 bales or 1,200 million pounds while the reduction in 1946-47 amounted to 1,270,000 bales or 500 million pounds.

The Joint Organization had large stocks available for disposal in the 1945-46 season, owing to the fact that the Wool Control was still in effect, and in addition to the large carry-over on July 30, 1945 amounting to 10,407,000 bales, the Joint Organization bought in the current clips of

^{a/} Especially in Continental European countries.

Australia, New Zealand and South Africa amounting to approximately 4,410,000 bales.

Sales during the first postwar season at controlled prices were unusually large and reached 8,910,000 bales for the season according to officially revised estimates of the Joint Organization. About 4,410,000 bales represented current clip wool and 4,500,000 bales were sold from stocks held on June 30, 1945.

In the 1946-47 season the situation was entirely different as open auction sales of current clip wool were resumed in the Dominions and price controls were off. J. O. Stocks for disposal were much smaller than a year earlier, being confined to the carry-over as of June 30, 1946, or 5,786,700 bales, plus any wool bought in--at the Joint Organization floor price during the season.

The quantity bought in totaled only 193,876 bales in 1946-47 (63,855 bales of Australian, 107,892 bales of New Zealand and 22,129 bales of South African wool). The Joint Organization purchased only such wool as was not sold above the reserve or floor price set by that organization in September 1946. As competition from the United Kingdom, the United States and Continental Europe was keen for the finer wools, the price of these sorts remained well above the reserve price. Prices for merino and fine crossbreds, except burry and carbonizing types, were on an average 30 percent above the Organization's reserve prices throughout the season which closed June 30, 1947.

Sales from Joint Organization Stocks were naturally smaller in 1946-47 than in 1945-46 when all the wool including current clip was held by the Joint Organization. Total sales of Dominion wool in 1946-47, including 500 million pounds of Joint Organization wool, reached 2,000 million pounds according to preliminary estimates compared with 3,020 million pounds (all Government owned) in 1945-46.

(Tables on pages immediately following)

CANADA CONSERVES FEED FOR LIVESTOCK

Last month Canada placed a ban on the export of oats and barley during the crop year as a measure to conserve livestock feed. These restrictions were later made to apply to mill feeds, protein feeds of all kinds and commercial feeds. Estimated domestic supplies of concentrated feeds are barely sufficient to support the present Canadian livestock on a productive basis.

Export of feeds continues to handicap the feeding of livestock and to force liquidation which would adversely affect farmers and consumers and the hope of filling meat contracts with Britain.

WOOL: Joint Organization Stocks of Wool according to Origin and Location, June 30, 1947 with comparison.

Origin and Location	June 30, 1946		June 30, 1947	
	Revised			
	Bales <u>a/</u>	Million pounds <u>b/</u> greasy basis	Bales <u>c/</u>	Million pounds <u>d/</u> greasy basis
<u>Australian Wool</u>				
In Australia.....	2,807,100	926	2,526,763	884
In United Kingdom...	982,100	337	549,771	162
Total.....	3,789,200	1,263	3,076,534	1,046
<u>New Zealand</u>				
In New Zealand.....	935,900	350	752,013	281
In United Kingdom...	489,300	168	339,574	100
Total.....	1,425,200	518	1,091,587	381
<u>South Africa</u>				
In South Africa....	340,000	102	224,067	67
In United Kingdom...	232,300	79	122,570	36
Total.....	572,300	181	346,637	103
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>				
In Dominions.....	4,083,000	1,378	3,052,843	1,232
In United Kingdom...	1,703,700	584	1,011,915	298
TOTAL.....	5,786,700	e/ 2,000	f/ 4,514,758	e/ 1,500

a/ United Kingdom Dominion Wool Disposal Ltd., April 18, 1947.

b/ Conversion to million of pounds greasy basis as furnished by the International Wool Study Group.

c/ United Kingdom - Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd., September 1947.

d/ Conversion to pounds, greasy basis, made at same weight of bale as in 1946.

e/ Rounded to tens of millions.

f/ J. O. stocks in the U. S. included with the U. K. as all will be shipped there for sale. This also applies to 1946.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Compiled from reports of the United Kingdom-Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd., and the International Wool Study Group.

WOOL: Sales of Joint Organization wool and privately owned wool in the Dominions and in the United Kingdom, 1945-46 and 1946-47 seasons

Origin and Place of Sales	1945-46			1946-47		
	Privately			Privately		
	J.O.	Owned	Total	J.O.	Owned	Total
Australian Wool						
In Australia....)			)		231.0:a/	2949.4
In United Kingdom...:)5755.9	--		)5755.9	542.3:	2.4	: 544.7
Total....: 5755.9	--		5755.9	773.3:	2951.8	: 3725.1
New Zealand Wool						
In New Zealand....)			)		122.5:b/	934.7
In United Kingdom...:)1298.2	--		)1298.2	283.9:	11.5	: 295.4
Total....: 1298.2	--		1298.2	406.4:	946.2	: 1352.6
South African Wool						
In South Africa....)			)		132.6:c/	587.7
In United Kingdom...:)1856.1	--		)1856.1	115.3:	--	: 115.3
Total....: 1856.1	--		1856.1	247.9:	587.7	: 835.6
GRAND TOTAL						
In Dominions....)			)		486.1:	4471.8
In United Kingdom...:)8910.2	--		)8910.2	941.5:d/	13.9	: 955.4
TOTAL....: 8910.2	--		8910.2	1427.6:	4485.7	: 5913.3
Converted to Million pounds	all govern-					
	3020.0	amount owned	3020.0	500.0:	1500.0	: 2000.0

a/ Sales at auction, National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia.
 b/ Dalgety and Company reprints of wool sold at auction sales in New Zealand.
 c/ Sold at auction. Probably more sold privately after auction closed.
 d/ Sales from privately owned wool shipped direct.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

COTTONCOTTON - PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths
and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cent per pound
Alexandria	:	Kantar	:	:	:
Ashmouni, Good.....	10-9	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	40.00	33.37
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Giza 7, Good.....	"	"	"	44.50	37.13
Giza 7, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, Good.....	"	"	"	46.25	38.59
Karnak, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	43.25	36.09
Bombay	:	Candy	:	:	:
Jarila, Fine.....	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	435.00	16.74
Broach, Fine.....	"	"	"	550.00	21.17
Sind American, Fine.....	"	"	"	560.00	21.55
Punjab " 289-F, Fine	"	"	"	670.00	25.78
Kampala, East African....	"	"	"	920.00	35.40
Buenos Aires	:	Metric ton	:	:	:
Type B.....	10-10	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	2590.00	34.98
Lima	:	Sp. quintal	:	:	:
Tanguis, Type 5.....	10-9	101.4 lbs.	Sol	158.00	23.97
Pima, Type 1.....	"	"	"	193.00	29.28
Recife	:	Arroba	:	:	:
Mata, Type 5.....	10-10	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	105.00	17.27
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	"	"	115.00	18.92
Sao Paulo	:	:	:	:	:
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	157.50	25.91
Torreon	:	Sp. quintal	:	:	:
Middling, 15/16".....	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	131.25	26.63

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTSBRITAIN BUYS
PALESTINE CITRUS

A contract to buy 10,000,000 cases of Palestine citrus during the 1946-47 season has been signed by the British Ministry of Food. Shamouti oranges are expected to account for about 7,700,000 cases, Valencias 650,000, grapefruit 1,500,000 and lemons 150,000 cases.

Under the terms of the contract the Ministry of Food is to pay the equivalent of approximately \$3.45 (17/3) per box about 10 cents above the 1946-47 price for the oranges and furnish the boxes. Fruit loss in excess of 10 percent will be borne by the shipper. Last season, the Ministry cancelled orders for nearly 1,000,000 boxes of Palestine oranges because of heavy fruit losses in some shipments. Compulsory use of diphenyl wraps was ordered for export packs for Britain of Jaffa oranges after mid-February and Valencias after March 10, 1947.

The 1947-48 citrus crop in Palestine is expected to total 12,000,000 to 14,000,000 boxes as compared with 10,790,000 boxes marketed during the 1946-47 season. The British Food Ministry purchased 4,038,000 boxes of Jaffas, 565,000 Valencias, 826,000 grapefruit and 203,000 boxes of lemons from the 1946-47 season. Total sales to European countries were 5,701,000 boxes of Jaffas, 753,000 Valencias, 953,000 grapefruit and 203,000 boxes of lemons. Other countries, chiefly Trans-Jordan, received the remaining exports consisting of 335,000 boxes of Jaffas, 10,000 Valencias and 10,000 boxes of lemons.

SWEDEN LICENSING IMPORTS OF APPLES AND PEARS

The Swedish Government is proceeding with the establishment of quotas for the importers of apples and pears from the United States, according to cable advice.

Establishment of the quotas for the individual importers which will be based upon apple and pear imports for the calendar year, 1946, is expected to require about two weeks time after which import licenses can be issued. Each eligible importer will be assigned a percentage of total imports from the United States as determined under the U. S.-Swedish Agreement which was concluded in June. The permits issued under this procedure probably will be valid through December 31 with provision for renewal if the importer's quota has not been imported by that date.

Under the agreement concluded in June, Sweden set up a quota for imports of apples and pears from the United States for the 18 months, January 1, 1947 - June 30, 1948, equivalent to 150 percent of such imports during the 1946 calendar year. Preliminary information indicates that about 600,000 bushels of apples and 200,000 bushels of pears from the 1947 crops may be eligible for entry into Sweden from the United States.

MAXIMUM PRICES OF RAISINS AND CURRENTS IMPORTED INTO CANADA

Canada's Wartime Prices and Trade Board has issued the following Order No. 764 regarding maximum prices of imported raisins and currants:

Under powers conferred by the Wartime Prices and Trade Regulations, Order in Council P.C. 8528, of November 1, 1941, as amended, the Board hereby orders as follows:

1. This Order shall come into force on October 1, 1947.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Administrator's Order No. A-2360, the maximum price at which any person may sell to any other person any kind and grade of raisins or currants.

- (a) imported from Australia or Turkey, on or after September 29, 1947, shall be the highest lawful price at which he could have sold those raisins or currants to that other person on September 30, 1947;
- (b) imported from one of the United States of America, on or after September 29, 1947, shall be his laid down cost plus the markup provided for his sales of imported raisins or currants by the said-Administrator's Order No. A-2360, but in no event exceeding the maximum price provided by clause
 - (a) above
 - (i) in the case of raisins, for his sales of a comparable grade of raisins imported from Turkey
 - (ii) in the case of currants, for his sales of the best grade of raisins imported from Turkey.

FATS AND OILS

NETHERLANDS INDIES COPRA PRODUCTION CONTINUES SMALL

Copra production in the Netherlands Indies, including West Borneo, amounted to 9,370 short tons during September. Exports totaled 16,500 tons, with 8,800 going to Denmark, 3,600 to South Africa, 3,300 to the Netherlands, and almost 800 to Czechoslovakia. Exports for January-September 1947 were 141,600 tons, representing a monthly average of over 15,700 tons, or almost a third the prewar monthly average shipments. Total postwar exports (July 1946-September 1947) have now reached almost 198,000 tons.

Stocks at the end of September were only 18,700 tons. Prices remained unchanged except for off grade copra which sold for 15 gulden per 100 kilograms (\$51.40 per short ton). Substantially higher production is expected in East Indonesia during October.

NETHERLANDS INDIES: Copra exports, January-September 1947

Date	: Netherlands	:United States	:Czecho- slovakia	:Switzer- land	:South Africa	:Denmark	:Total
1947	:	:		Short tons	:	:	:
January	: 3,748	:	:	:	:	:	3,748
February	: 10,871	:	:	:	:	:	10,871
March	: 29,762	:	:	:	:	:	29,762
April	: 27,558	:	:	:	:	:	27,558
May	: 7,840	:	:	:	:	:	7,840
June	: 15,456	: 1,680	:	:	:	:	17,136
July	: 12,676	:	:	:	:	:	12,676
August	: 7,165	:	5,511	: 551	: 2,205	:	15,432
September	: 3,307	:	772	:	3,637	: 8,818	16,534
Total	: 118,383	: 1,680	6,283	: 551	: 5,842	: 8,818	141,557

Compiled from official sources.

U. S. VEGETABLE OIL
IMPORTS CONTINUE UPWARD

United States January-August imports of principal vegetable oils and oilseeds (in terms of oil), amounted to 915 million pounds, more than double the quantity received in the corresponding months of 1946. Increases over last year occurred in all vegetable oils except babassu and oiticica. The outstanding gain was in copra, which was 118 percent greater than last year and exceeded the 1935-39 average by 83 percent. While coconut oil imports were considerably smaller, total copra and oil in terms of oil compared favorably with imports of the late 1930's. Tung oil arrivals during January-August of this year were only 30 percent less than the prewar average.

UNITED STATES: Imports a/ of specified oils and oilseeds,
January-August 1947, with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1946	January-August	
				1946	1947
			b/	c/	d/
Babassu kernels....	: 1,000 lbs.		39,463:	36,673:	22,013
Babassu oil.....	" "	: c/	346:	2,314:	2,314: 1,521
Castor-beans.....	" "		132,924:	226,295:	157,482: 157,181
Castor oil.....	" "		226:	6,450:	3,523: 6,585
Flaxseed.....	" bu.		18,470:	3,394:	3,218: 280
Linseed oil.....	" lbs.		713:	94,405:	36,756: 117,191
Copra.....	" s.t.		230:	395:	194: 422
Coconut oil.....	" lbs.		348,715:	2,353:	1,853: 17,523
Oiticica oil.....	" "	: c/	7,673:	22,593:	14,604: 7,111
Olive oil:			:	:	:
Edible.....	" "		62,811:	12,660:	2,797: 6,217
Inedible.....	" "		35,448:	103:	38: 218
Palm oil.....	" "		321,482:	37,850:	22,941: 39,232
Sesame seed.....	" "		58,425:	4,891:	4,338: 8,287
Tea seed oil.....	" "		13,159:	88:	88: 5,682
Tucum kernels.....	" "	: d/	9,810:	12,709:	11,305: 16,777
Tung oil.....	" "		123,190:	36,207:	13,231: 86,121

Compiled from official sources.

a/ Imports for consumption. b/ Not separately classified in Foreign Commerce and Navigation. c/ Average of less than 5 years. d/ 1939 only.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS
(Continued from Page 261)

CANADA REPORTS RECORD
FLOUR PRODUCTION

Flour production in Canada reached an all-time record of 28.5 million bushels during the year ended July 31, 1947. At that figure the production exceeded the previous record of a year earlier by about 2 million barrels. Exports of flour also established a new record of 17.7 million barrels, compared with the former record of 13.9 million barrels in 1944-45. The record exports for the year just ended were about 28 percent above the high level of a year earlier.

Flour milling in Canada has increased steadily since 1937-38 when the total output was reported at 12.9 million barrels. Exports of 3.6 million barrels that year represented 28 percent of total production, whereas the exports in 1946-47 were about 62 percent of the grindings.

The new record grindings meant that mills were working slightly above rated capacity in 1946-47, compared with the estimate of 96.5 percent of rated capacity for the 1945-46 season. The largest output was reported for May when a total of 2.6 million barrels was produced. Largest exports show up in the customs returns for May and June.

ARGENTINE COARSE GRAIN ACREAGE REDUCED

The acreage seeded to coarse grains in Argentina for harvest in December-January is somewhat smaller than last year's acreage, according to the latest official estimate. Barley and rye acreage, though smaller than in 1946, is still considerably larger than the average acreage seeded during 1935-39 while the acreage seeded to oats is also below average.

Barley acreage, now placed at 2,873,000 acres would be only 85 percent of last year's seeded acreage, but about 50 percent above the average of 1,903,000 acres for 1935-39. Acreage of oats, reported at 3,388,000 acres, is about 13 percent less than in 1946 and 5 percent below average. Rye acreage at 4,496,000 acres though slightly less than in 1946, is almost 80 percent larger than the 1935-39 average.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

FOOT-AND-MOUTH CAMPAIGN IN MEXICO STRENGTHENED

The campaign to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico has been strengthened by two recent developments. The President of Mexico signed a decree authorizing condemnation of infected and exposed livestock where owners are unwilling to bring in their animals for slaughter because they are dissatisfied with the appraisal value, or for other reasons. The decree also provides stiff penalties for non-compliance or failure to cooperate in the campaign.

A further important development is the agreement to meet all indemnity payments for livestock slaughtered from a single joint fund. Formerly, Mexico paid for all hogs, sheep, and goats slaughtered, while the United States funds were used to pay indemnities on cattle. The new arrangement makes for easier administration, less delay and greater certainty of payment, and better cooperation from owners of livestock. Mexico's contribution is pegged at 3 million pesos monthly. Any salvage from slaughtered animals goes into the fund, and the purchase of mules to replace work oxen slaughtered is to be financed from the fund.

Since the eradication campaign began in May, United States participation has been rapidly increased. More than 350 United States technicians, including veterinarians, livestock inspectors, paymasters, and appraisers, are now actively engaged in the work.

CHILE SPENDS MORE FOR FOOD IMPORTS

In spite of its shortage of foreign exchange, Chile has been spending greater sums than ever for imported foodstuffs this year. January-through July imports of sugar, cattle, wheat, vegetable oil and oilseeds cost roughly \$35 million, or double that of the corresponding period in 1946. This has resulted in substantial price increases for this season's wheat and sunflower crops, and a corresponding increase in sowings. Favorable growing conditions to date indicate a probable drop in food imports during 1948.

Chile imported 1300 metric tons of butter, at a cost of over U. S. \$700,000 from Argentina through July of this year, and the Chilean Government has authorized the importation of an additional 1100 tons. In keeping with the country's efforts to develop its dairy industry, 6 pesos for each kilo of butter brought in must be paid to the Institute of Agricultural Economy by the importers for use in increasing the dairy output.

C O R R E C T I O N

Total wool exports from Australia for the years 1934-38 should be 827 million pounds, instead of the transposed figure of 287 million pounds contained in the table Wool Exports from Five Principal Southern Hemisphere Countries, on page 256 of Foreign Crops and Markets of October 13, 1947. The correct figures for Australia are included in the 1,741 million pounds for all five countries.
